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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: SAHATJIAN, Ronald et al.

Serial No.: 10/059,420

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For: STENT LINING

Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: To be Assigned

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ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please enter the following amendments.

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 13-25 (paragraph [0009] in the Published Patent Application), with the paragraph below:

B,
(Twice amended) Rather than administering the hydrogel lining via a coating on a balloon, the catheter may include a delivery port for administering a hydrogel to the inner surfaces of the stent. For example, the balloon may include a first layer and a second outer apertured layer overlaying the delivery port. The hydrogel is administered through the outer apertured layer of the balloon to contact the inner surfaces of the stent to create a lining therein. After the hydrogel is applied to the stent, a crosslinking agent may be administered to contact the hydrogel. For example, an alginate hydrogel can be crosslinked by contacting it with calcium gluconate, and a hyaluronic acid hydrogel can be crosslinked by contacting it with divinyl glycol.

Please replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 7-17 (paragraph [0012] in the